

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MONROV 04198 211733Z

53

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 SAM-01 CIAE-00

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P R 211721Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY MONROVIA

TO AMEMBASSY CONAKRY PRIORITY

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 6457

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MONROVIA 4198

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, GV, LI, UR, AG, SF

SUBJ: SEKOU TOURE VISIT TO MONROVIA

REF: CONAKRY 1145

1. PRESIDENT SEKOU TOURE AND PARTY ARRIVED MID-MORNING JULY 21
AND WERE MET BY LARGE CONTINGENT LIBERIAN GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS
AND CITIZENS. AFTER AIRPORT FESTIVITIES PRESIDENT TOURE PASSED
BY GRAVE OF LATE STEPHEN TOLBERT TO SAY PRAYERS AT GRAVE SITE,
FOLLOWING WHICH ENTIRE PARTY, LIBERIAN CABINET AND OTHER
RANKING GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND DIPLOMATIC CORPS WERE RECEIVED
AT RECEPTION AT EXECUTIVE MANSION. PRESIDENTS TOLBERT AND TOURE
GAVE EXTEMPORANEOUS SPEECHES ON THIS OCCASION. TOLBERT
EMPHASIZED THE EXCELLENT RELATIONS BETWEEN GUINEA AND LIBERIA
AND EXTOLLED SEKOU TOURE AS AFRICAN STATESMAN. PRESIDENT TOLBERT
HAILED RECENT EVENTS SUCH AS DECOLONIZATION OF FORMER PORTUGUESE
TERRITORIES SINCE TOURE'S LAST VISIT TO LIBERIA. HE APPEALED
FOR JOINT EFFORTS ON THE PART OF ALL AFRICANS FOR LIBERATION
OF THE AFRICAN CONTINENT FROM ALL FORMS OF OPPRESSION AND
REPRESSION. IN HIS SOMEWHAT LENGTHIER RESPONSE PRESIDENT
TOURE GAVE A WARM ACCOUNT HIS PERSONAL RELATIONSHIP WITH
PRESIDENT TOLBERT AND EXCELLENT RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO
COUNTRIES. HE GAVE A TRIBUTE TO TOLBERT AS AN AFRICAN

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PAGE 02 MONROV 04198 211733Z

PATRIOT, STATESMAN AND DYNAMIC LEADER OF HIS PEOPLE, AND

A MAN WHO COULD BE COUNTED UPON TO STAND UP FOR WHAT HE BELIEVED IN AND TO STAND BY HIS WORD. IN AN EXTENSIVE EXPOSE OF THE NEED TO LIBERATE THE AFRICAN CONTINENT, THE TONE OF HIS REMARKS WAS MODERATE THROUGHOUT. NO NEW GROUND WAS BROKEN BY EITHER SPEAKER.

2. ALTHOUGH INITIAL PLANS CALLED FOR PRESIDENT TOURE'S DEPARTURE AFTERNOON OF JULY 21, WE WERE INFORMED AT LUNCHEON THAT TOURE WILL STAY OVERNIGHT AND DEPART FOR CONAKRY AT 10 A.M. JULY 22.

MANFULL

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